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any island in the whole series in question contains straight-haired blacks resembling Australians.

Though unprepared to cancel the Australian as a distinct physical race, he admits that affinity may possibly be found in the Telingan or Black Hindu; and, notwithstanding the general Caucasian features of Telingans, and the broad, flat nose and darker complexion of Australians, a match could probably be found of individuals not very dissimilar in personal appearance.

From eastern Hindustan, Telingans continue migrating by thousands to the Malayan archipelago, but, being all males, make very little impression on the resident population. He did not, while among them, apply the Caucasian test of the divided cartilage at the nasal extremity.

On Sonomaite.—Mr. E. GOLDSMITH stated that he had found among other undetermined minerals collected by Prof. F. V. Hayden in Sonoma County, Cal., near the geysers, one for which he proposed the name Sonomaite.

This is the composition of the first specimen—

Al	=	7.66 per cent.	=	3.56 per cent. oxygen.
Fe	=	2.01 “	=	0.46 “ “
Mg	=	7.14 “	=	3.21 “ “
S	=	38.78 “	=	23.26 “ “
H	=	44.41 “	=	39.55 “ “

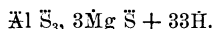
A second specimen from another spot probably, but from the same locality, gave but a slightly different result, as the analysis showed—

Al	=	8.36 per cent.	=	3.89 per cent. oxygen.
Fe	=	1.56 “	=	0.34 “ “
Mg	=	7.51 “	=	3.00 “ “
S	=	38.30 “	=	22.98 “ “
H	=	44.27 “	=	39.35 “ “

The oxygen ratios of both analyses are—

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Al} & : & \text{Mg (Fe)} & : & \text{S} & : & \text{H} \\ 3 & : & 3 & : & 18 & : & 33. \end{array}$$

which result may be expressed in the formula—



The alumina was in these analyses precipitated twice in order to effect a complete separation of the magnesia. The water was found by the difference.

In regard to the oxidation of the iron, he ascertained that, if the watery solution of the salt was tested with a solution of sulphocyanide of potassium and well mixed, no red coloration appeared, but, on adding a few drops of diluted sulphuric acid, a reddish coloration became visible. It seems reasonable to assume that a small quantity of the iron was oxidized to sesquioxide, but had no acid with which to form the sesquisalt. The truth of this view becomes apparent if a few hundred milligrammes are dis-

solved in much water, in which case a small quantity of sesquioxide of iron drops to the bottom of the vessel; if, however, the solution of the salt is concentrated, the separation of this oxide seems not to take place. The iron in this mineral varies in quantity, and he thought it might at times be entirely wanting, for magnesia and protoxide of iron may substitute each other, and for this reason he did not introduce it into the formula.

When he first determined the mineral, it was supposed to be Pickeringite, because the general appearance, the reactions with the blowpipe, its solubility, and all the elements contained in it are the same; only the quantitative analysis showed the differences in the ratios of the constituents.

Sonomaite occurs in silky, colorless crystals.

Specific gravity in alcohol of 95 per cent. = 1.982; in water it would therefore be = 1.604.

Klauer described (Gmelin's Handbuch der Chemie, 2, 315) a salt which differs from this only in having 3 æq. of water more.

Explorations in South America.—Prof. COPE stated that an expedition had been planned in this city for the exploration of the sources of the Madeira River, and of the eastern slopes of the Andes in Bolivia. Prof. James Orton had taken charge of the party, which included a corps of scientific assistants. As the region in question is the least known in South America, important results are anticipated. It was hoped that the Academy would be able to avail itself of these in the increase of its collections, etc. The expedition sailed on the 25th of October last.

NOVEMBER 14.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-six members present.

A paper entitled "Note on a Cirripede of the Californian Miocene, with remarks on Fossil Shells," by T. A. Conrad, was presented for publication.

On Boussingaultite and other Minerals from Sonoma County, California.—Mr. E. GOLDSMITH stated that among the minerals brought by Dr. F. V. Hayden from Sonoma County, Cal., was one which he thought proper to call Boussingaultite. Although he had not been able to find in the current literature an analysis of the mineral to which Bechi had given this name in 1864, still he presumed that it might be that. It is stated, however, in Dana's Descriptive Min., p. 635, that Boussingaultite is mascagnite with some sulphate magnesia; whereas the mineral which Mr. G. analyzed seems to be sulphate magnesia ammonia. The